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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 13 July 1948

SUBJECT Vehicle Production at BMW, Eisenach;
Development of Tank Motors in Saxony-Anhalt

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During April 1948, the Avtovelo plant (formerly BMM) in Bisenach produced 300 automobiles and 300 two-liter motorcycles for civilian use. For Soviet Army use, it also manufactured 180 cross-country motor vehicles, equipped with the new 90 hp BMM engine, and 300 two-liter motorcycles with sidecars. The sidecars, not for personnel, are carriages for heavy machine guns. The May 1948 schedule calls for the production of 300 cross-country motor vehicles.

2. Commissions of Soviet armament technicians are currently active in Saxony-Anhalt, pursuing a reorganization of the machine construction industry for the construction of steel models of heavy tank motors. This reorganization has been carried out systematically within the framework of general industrial planning since January 1948.
3. The models to be built are of those of motors for the Stalin and other heavy tanks. German engineers, who have been shown Soviet blueprint recommendations, have been promised heavy premiums for any further improvements they may be able to make. Germans concerned notified the Russians that, due to the lack of precision tools, models could not be finished before early 1950. The Soviet reply was that such tools would either be made available soon or produced in the Russian Zone at a very high priority rate.
4. Only models are to be produced in Germany; mass production will take place in Russia.

Comment: [REDACTED] all important machine factories in Saxony-Anhalt are participating in model construction, he could cite only one specific plant: the Krupp-Gruson works in Magdeburg-Buckau.

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